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Cable dated:2005-11-16T09:53:00 C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 007777 SIPDIS E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/7/2015 TAGS: [PREL](#) [PHUM](#) [KDEM](#) [J](#)

- [1](#)1. (C) Summary: The November 11 assault of a French journalist in Tunis by unknown assailants widely believed to belong to the Tunisian securi
- [1](#)2. (SBU) French media continues to report widely on the attack on "Liberation" correspondent Christophe Boltanski, who was beaten and stabbed
- [1](#)3. (SBU) In a November 13 statement issued some 40 hours after the Boltanski assault took place, the MFA declared, "We have made it known to t
- [1](#)4. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXX told usXXXXXXXXXXXX that the Boltanski attack would not affect GoF participation in the WSIS, for which Minister of Econon
- [1](#)5. (C) XXXXXXXXXXXX remained skeptical on prospects for finding Boltanski's attackers or for any near-term improvement in Tunisia's human righ
- [1](#)6. (C) Pressed to explain why the GoF could not speak more forcefully with Tunisia on human rights, given the friendship between the two count
- [1](#)7. (C) Comment: We view this controversy as indicative of the degree to which President Chirac's "stability first" and tradition of cultivatir
Hofmann